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Attorney Docket No. 29195-8162US  
Semitool Ref No. P98-0001

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Date: Dec 31, 2002

By: Melody J. Almberg  
Melody J. Almberg

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: Thomas L. Ritzdorf *et al.*

APPLICATION NO.: 09/018,783

FILED: February 4, 1998

FOR: **METHOD FOR FILLING RECESSED  
MICRO-STRUCTURES WITH  
METALLIZATION IN THE PRODUCTION  
OF A MICROELECTRONIC DEVICE**

EXAMINER: Thomas J. Magee

ART UNIT: 2811

CONF. NO: 1242

**Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement After First Office Action  
but Before Final Action or Notice of Allowance – 37 CFR 1.97(c)**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

1. Timing of Submission

The information transmitted herewith is being filed *after* three months of the filing date of this application or after the mailing date of the first Office action on the merits, whichever occurred last, but *before* the mailing date of either a final action under 37 CFR 1.113 or a Notice of Allowance under 37 CFR 1.311, whichever occurs first. The references listed on the enclosed Form 1449 may be material to the examination of this application; the Examiner is requested to make them of record in the application.

2. Cited Information

☒ Copies of the following references are enclosed:

☒ All cited references

☐ References marked by asterisks

☐ The following:

BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS  
AND INTERFERENCE

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☐ Copies of the following references can be found in parent U.S. Application No. \_\_\_\_\_ :

- ☐ All cited references
- ☐ References marked by asterisks
- ☐ The following:

☐ The following references are not in English. For each such reference, the undersigned has enclosed: (i) a translation of the reference; (ii) a copy of a communication from a foreign patent office or International Searching Authority citing the reference; (iii) a copy of a reference which appears to be an English-language counterpart; or (iv) an English-language abstract for the reference prepared by a third party. Applicant has not verified that the translation, English-language counterpart or third-party abstract is an accurate representation of the teachings of the non-English reference, though, and reserves the right to demonstrate otherwise.

- ☐ All cited references
- ☐ References marked by ampersands
- ☐ The following:

3. Effect of Information Disclosure Statement (37 CFR 1.97(h))

This Information Disclosure Statement is not to be construed as a representation that: (i) a search has been made; (ii) additional information material to the examination of this application does not exist; (iii) the information, protocols, results and the like reported by third parties are accurate or enabling; or (iv) the cited information is, or is considered to be, material to patentability. In addition, applicant does not admit that any enclosed item of information constitutes prior art to the subject invention and specifically reserves the right to demonstrate that any such reference is not prior art.

4. Fee Payment (37 CFR 1.97(c)) or Certification (37 CFR 1.97(e))

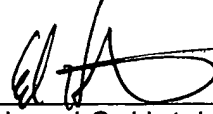
- ☒ Applicant elects to pay the fee under 37 CFR 1.17(p) \$180.00.
- ☒ Check enclosed for \$180.00.
- ☒ Please charge any underpayment for timely filing of this paper to Deposit Account No. 50-0665.

5. Patent Term Adjustment (37 CFR 1.704(d))

- ☐ The undersigned states that each item of information submitted herewith was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application and that this communication was not received by any

individual designated in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of this statement. 37 C.F.R. §1.704(d).

Respectfully submitted,  
Perkins Coie LLP



\_\_\_\_\_  
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Date: 31 Dec 02

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**  
Form PTO-1449 (Modified)  
(Use several sheets if necessary)

**COMPLETE IF KNOWN**

Application Number	09/018,783
Confirmation Number	1242
Filing Date	February 4, 1998
First Named Inventor	Thomas L. Ritzdorf
Group Art Unit	2811
Examiner Name	Thomas J. Magee
Attorney Docket No.	29195-8162US

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**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials	Cite No.	U.S. Patent or Application		Name of Patentee or Inventor of Cited Document	Date of Publication or Filing Date of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Figures Appear
		NUMBER	Kind Code (if known)			
		3,658,663		Fukanuma et al.	04/25/72	
		3,716,462		Jensen	02/13/73	
		3,878,066		Dettke et al.	04/15/75	
		4,100,054		DuRocher	07/11/78	
		4,385,978		Prusak	05/31/83	
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		5,639,316		Cabral, Jr. et al.	06/17/97	
		5,882,498		Dubin et al.	03/16/99	
		5,932,077		Reynolds	08/03/99	
		6,184,121		Buchwalter et al.	02/06/01	
		6,184,137		Ding et al.	02/06/01	

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initial	Cite No.	Foreign Patent or Application			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication or Filing Date of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Figures Appear	T
		Office	NUMBER	Kind Code (if known)				

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not criteria is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to application(s).